BACK TO SCHOOL 2025

EARLY LEARNING NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S INSIDE

BE READY DAY 1- 2

EARLY LEARNING WEBSITE-3

HCS WELCOME CENTER- 4

LET'S LEARN! PHONOLOGICAL AWARENSS - 5

LET'S READ- 6

EVENTS AND RESOURCES- 7

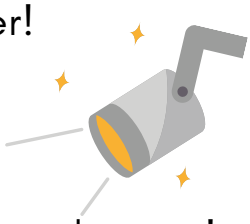
BOARD OF EDUCATION-8

HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS | EARLY LEARNING



BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

Welcome back to another incredible year in Early Learning at Henry County Schools! In this edition, you will learn strategies to support your young learner and find resources to help you have the best year ever!



Spotlight Strategy:

Play rhyming games with your young learner! Rhyming is one of the easiest ways to build language skills and is a key building block for learning to read. Play rhyming games, sing rhyming nursey songs, and point out rhyming words in books!



BE READY DAY ONE

We are ready for day one! Please visit our website dedicated to making sure you have all the information and tools you need to start the school year with success. Visit https://bit.ly/4mq6jLl or scan the QR code below and you will find:

- Open House information
- Student schedules and teacher assignments
- Bus stops and pick-up/drop-off times
- Before and after school program information
- FAQ
- Student/Parent Handbook
- and more!



RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT

Do you want to learn more about our elementary, middle, or high schools? Visit https://bit.ly/436U5A8 to view each site's school profile. Each profile is loaded with information on what makes that school unique and a great place to learn!

THE EARLY LEARNING WEBSITE

We are excited to announce that our Henry Ready Early Learning website is live and ready to support all young learners in Henry County!

RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT

Visit the Early Learning website for Kindergarten readiness tips and to learn more about Kindergarten in HCS!

Get Ready for Kindergarten

+ Kindergarten in HCS

+ Family Guide

Scan the QR to visit the Early Learning Birth to 5 webpage:



HCS WELCOME CENTER



Our Welcome Center offers a range of tailored services designed to make the enrollment process seamless and hassle-free. Our dedicated team is ready to assist you with OLR (Online Registration) using our convenient one-on-one support from our administrative assistants. Additionally, we have bilingual staff members on hand to cater to the needs of our diverse community. We understand the importance of identifying and assisting homeless youth, and we have specialized programs to support. Furthermore, we offer services related to hospital homebound programs and can guide you through the enrollment process for various programs.

At the Henry County Schools' Welcome Center, we take pride in being the bridge between families and other District Office departments. Our collaboration with external community agencies enables us to cater to the unique needs of Henry County families effectively.

If you require assistance with enrollment or have any questions, please don't hesitate to visit us at 166 Holly Smith Drive in McDonough. You can also reach us at 770-957-3945. Our team is eager to serve you and support your journey with Henry County Schools!

For more information, please visit our website at:
https://www.henry.k12.ga.us/Page/147767

WHAT IS... PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS?

What is it?

Phonological awareness is your child's ability to hear and manipulate sounds in spoken words. It means they can notice things like:

- Words that rhyme
- How words can be broken into parts
- The beginning sounds in words
- Smaller sounds that make up words (like in *dog:* /d/ /o/ /g/)

Why is it important for my young learner?

Phonological Awareness skills help children get ready to read and spell! Reading isn't just about knowing letters, it's also about understanding the sounds those letters represent. When students can break words into sounds, they are more prepared to sound out new words when reading and write words when spelling.

Practicing at Home

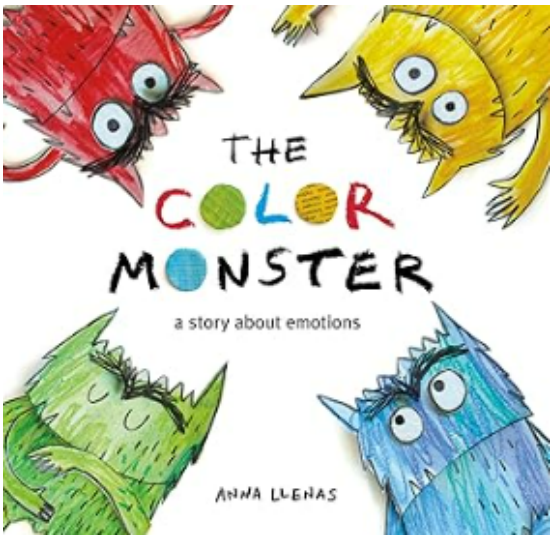
You don't need fancy tools to strengthen your student's phonological sensitivity!

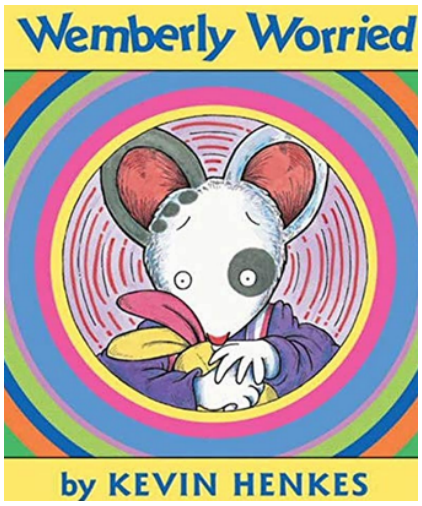
- Read rhyming books and ask questions like "what rhymes with cat?"
- Show your child how to clap out syllables in their name or common words (i.e. "cook-ie" gets 2 claps).
- Collect household items and sort them by beginning sounds!
- Read, talk, sing, and play every day!



LET'S READ!

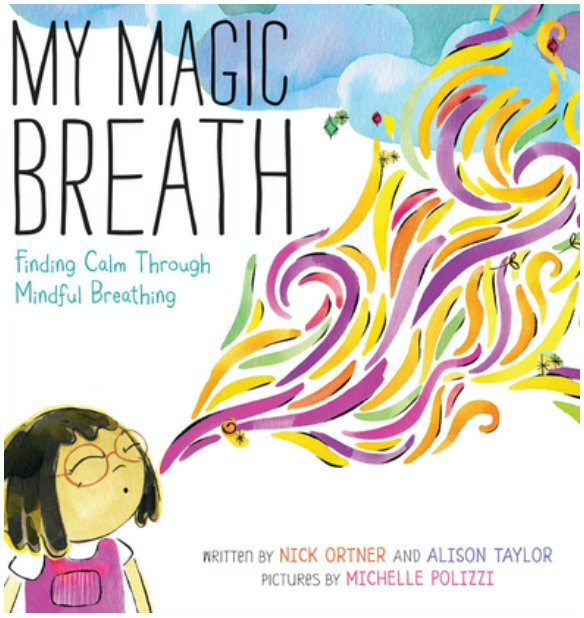
Getting ready for school can be overwhelming for young learners! Help your child handle big feelings by having conversations about calming strategies and reading books that support social-emotional learning.

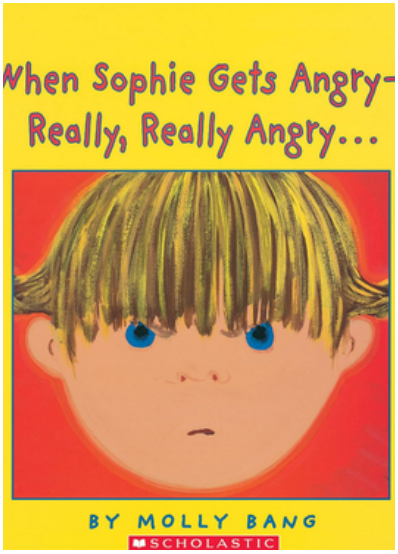


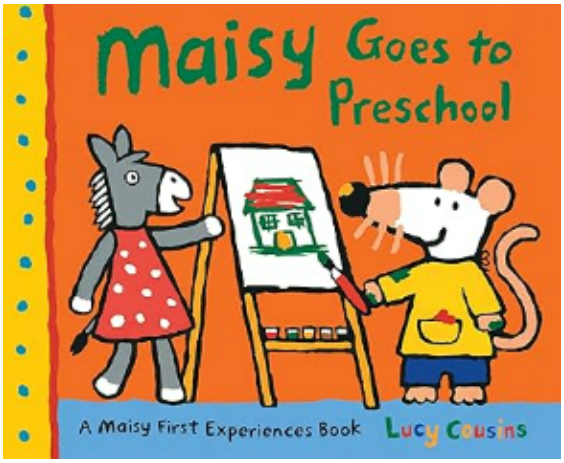


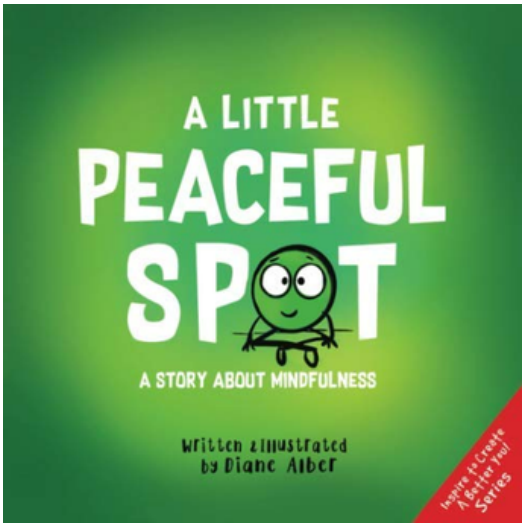












Find these books at your Local Henry County Library Branch:

HCS EVENTS

First Day of School: July 31st
Labor Day, No School: September 1st
Fall Break, No School: September 15th - 19th



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Henry County Schools - https://www.henry.k12.ga.us/

Henry County Library System - https://henrylibraries.org/

Henry County Parks and Recreation - https://www.henrycountyga.gov/309/Parks-Recreation

Ferst Readers - https://ferstreaders.org/

Bright from the Start - http://www.decal.ga.gov/

CDC Developmental Milestones - https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html

Department of Public Health - https://www.district4health.org/locations/henry-county/

HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION



Our award-winning Henry County Board of Education is comprised of six members. Pictured from left to right are Pam Nutt (District 1 Representative), Annette Edwards (District 2 Representative and Vice Chair), Sophe Pope (District 4 Representative and Chair), Superintendent Dr. John Pace III, Holly Cobb (District 3 Representative), and Makenzie McDaniel (District 5 Representative). Board members are elected by the citizens of Henry County to a four-year term of service. The Board meets at least once a month. Remaining meetings for 2025 are scheduled on:

August 11
September 8
October 13
November 10
December 8

Each meeting date has a Study Session at 4:00 p.m. and a Business Session at 7:00 p.m. The general public is invited to attend all meetings and can also stream each meeting at home.

For more information about the Board of Education Governance Team, visit https://www.henry.k12.ga.us/domain/9

For more information on Board of Education meetings, visit: https://www.henry.k12.ga.us/domain/8